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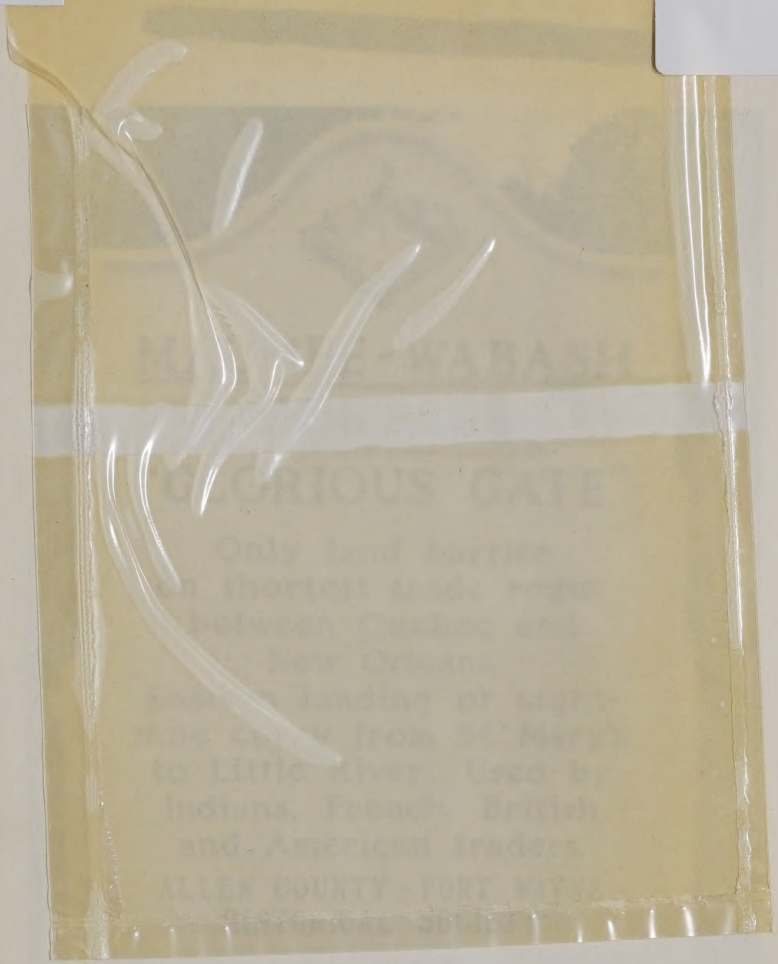

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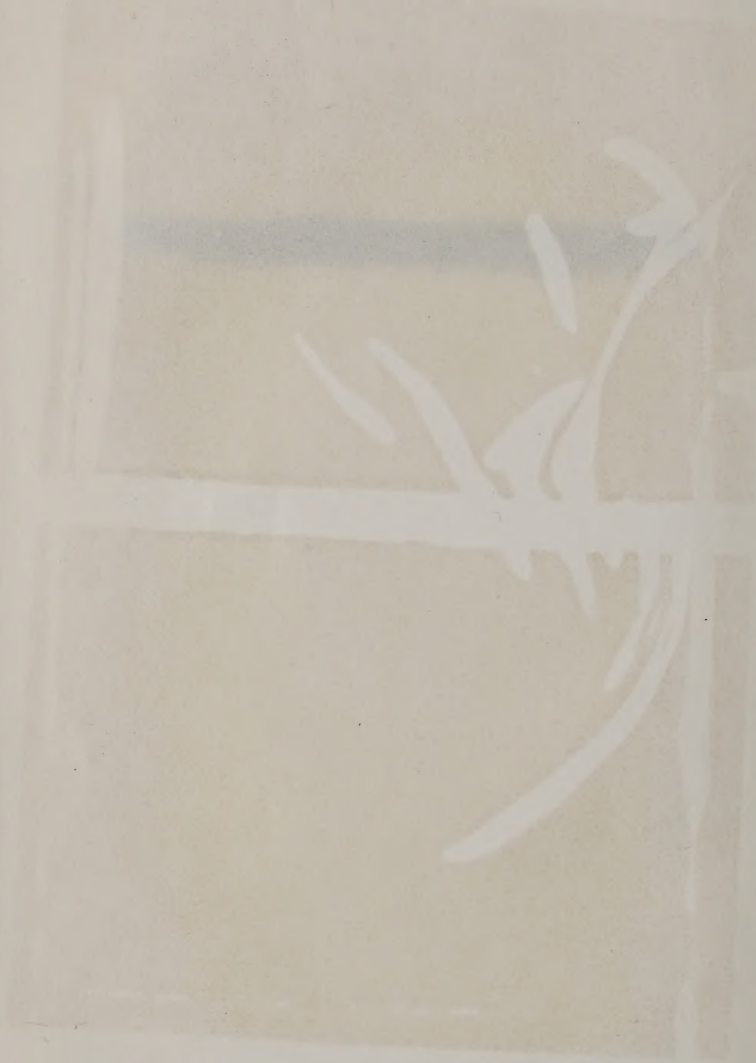


MAUMEE-WABASH
PORTAGE
"GLORIOUS GATE"
Only land barrier
on shortest trade route
between Quebec and
New Orleans.
Eastern landing of eight-
mile carry from St. Mary's
to Little River. Used by
Indians, French, British
and American traders.
ALLEN COUNTY - FORT WAYNE
HISTORICAL SOCIETY

BLACK GOLD

The markers for the ceremony have been donated through the courtesy and generosity of:

Mr. and Mrs. William B. F. Hall.

1078401

Tape recorded by WOWO

SITES AND MARKERS COMMITTEE OF THE ALLEN COUNTY - FORT WAYNE HISTORICAL SOCIETY:

Mrs. Frank Roberts, Chairman
Dean F. Cutshall
Edward C. Dodez
Dr. George W. Gillie
Mrs. Wayne Henricks
George A. Sweet

Members of Explorer Post 2300, sponsored by the Aboite Township Community Association and participating in Portage Dedication:

Perry Schlie, Robert Hunt, Edward Kridler, Robert Parquet, Nelson Deuitch, James Helbert, Harold Hopkins, Philip Snyder, Chuck Notter, Tucker Steinmetz, David Katzenmaier; Assisting: John Wightman, Ronnie Eakins, Ernest Barrett, Michael Ferverda, Robert Mansfield, Dennis Van Buskirk; Advisor, Philip Smith; assistant advisor, Dennis Parquet

Director of Treaty Scene: Lois Peterson Keller.

MAUMEE-WABASH PORTAGE MARKER DEDICATION

June 14, 1959

DRUMS

MUSICAL THEME ---------- The White Cockade

THE ALTAR OF PEACE ---------- Cal Stewart

Taped script of the closing words at the signing of the Greenville Treaty.

BUGLE CALLS - ASSEMBLY - TO THE COLORS

CIVIC THEATER VOICES:

General Anthony Wayne--James Lewinski
William Wells ---------- William Coleman
Narrator ---------- Jay Broad

FIGURES REPRESENTING THE PAINTING OF THE GREENVILLE TREATY BY HOWARD CHANDLER CHRISTY:

Miami Indians---Boy Scouts, Explorer Post 2300
General Anthony Wayne--Perry Schlie
William Wells ---------- Robert Hunt
Little Turtle ---------- Edward Kridler

SIGNING OF TREATY OF GREENVILLE WITH QUILL PEN TOUCHED BY ALL THE INDIANS

PRESENTATION OF FLAG OF "A. Wayne"*

*Replicas of treaty and flag will be displayed.

UNVEILING OF PORTAGE MARKER ---------- Edee White

MUSICAL THEME ---------- The White Cockade
Yankee Doodle

INDIAN DANCES ---------- Explorer Post 2300, BSA.

Chief's Dance	Devil Dance
Long Eagle Dance	Pipe Dance
Ant Dance of the Chippewas	Fire Hoop Dance

MAUMEE-WABASH PORTAGE LOCATED ON EXPLORERS' SEARCH FOR CHINA AND JAPAN

The seventeenth-century kings of France knew very little of what lay ahead for the explorers they sent out to find a water route to the Orient. In fact, our prospects for reaching the moon today are much surer than LaSalle's and Hennepin's chances of finding the Northwest Passage.

It was a noble try, for in 1671, in the annual report to the King from the Falls of St. Mary north of Lake Michigan, it was stated optimistically: "According to the calculations made from the reports of Indians and from maps there seems to remain not more than fifteen hundred leagues of navigation to Tartary, China and Japan."

However, as in other explorations, it was the discovery of new rivers - Ohio, Mississippi - and trails along the way that proved to be the most important result of these intrepid adventurers. Among these new trails, on the shortest water route from Lake Erie to the Mississippi, they came upon the Maumee-Wabash Portage.

The first written reference to the Maumee-Wabash Portage appeared in a letter from LaSalle to Frontenac, Governor-General of Canada in the year 1682. LaSalle's mission was to discover the south sea passage to Tartary, China, and Japan. His instructions were to penetrate farther than had ever been done to the southwest and south.

The map dated 1673, and the descriptions of three

portages discovered through the travels of Hennepin and LaSalle found in a communication dated September 8, 1721, indicate for the first time the white man's knowledge of the Maumee-Wabash Portage.

This is the passage referring to the Portage: "From this lake (Erie) to the Mississippi they have 3 different routes. The shortest by water is up the river Miamis or Ouamis, on the southwest of Lake Erie, on which river they sail about one hundred and 50 leagues without interruption, when they find themselves stopped by another landing of about 3 leagues which they call a carrying-place because they are generally obliged to carry their canoes overland in those places to the next River, and that where they next embark is a very shallow one, called La Riviere de Portage; hence they row about forty leagues to the river Ouabach, and from thence about 350 leagues to the river Ohio, into which the Ouabach falls, as the river Ohio does about 350 leagues directly to the Bay of Mexico."

The two other portages, described more briefly, were the Kankakee and the Fox-Wisconsin. Both were much longer.

Until the treaty of Greenville, the carrying-place of eight miles between the St. Mary's and the Little (Ouabach) River, was a toll road furnishing great revenue to the Miami Indians from the French and British traders.

Possibly the latest reference to the portage before the Treaty of Greenville was in the diary of a Kentucky volunteer who accompanied General Anthony Wayne to the landing place on October 12, 1794, from Wayne's new fort:

"Clear and pleasant for the season - Rode to the Landing place on the Wabash in Compy Maj. Genl. Wayn & Mjr. Genl. Scott with an Escort of the Guides & Spies of the Volunteers and Capt. Howel Lewis Compy. of the Legion - the Genl. Course from this place is about south 40 West through tillable beautifull Country a little

waveing and well timbered with young tall straight White Oak and some Hickory & Beach - open woods and beautiful Prieries - the Dist. about Eight Miles, - the French have some years since perhaps 6 or 8 caried on an extensive Trade from Post Vincens to the Maimi Villiages and down to Lake Eri, - the Road is very plain and the tracts of Waggons & Carts - the River is very narow and Deep about 5 feet at the Landing place - there is no appearance of a Town here but some small Camps & about 30 or 40 yds square of fine blue grass where the Traders landed their goods. - the Road is most part of the way on good ground and several Bridges and Causways to be seen. Course of the River nearly west, - at the Landing Place there is a very Extensive Prierie that appears to reach to the river St. Mary's - within one Mile or less of this place is the head Watters of the two greatest Rivers in America and perhaps in the whole World Viz Mississippi and St. Lawrence - returned in the Evening - found Genl Barbee had arivd with a smal quantity of provisions to what was expected."

Time and its erosion have obliterated most of the evidence of the old portage trail. It led naturally from the site of a fort near the confluence - French or British - to a tributary of the Wabash. In dry weather the carrying-place was longer than the usual eight miles. The dry months of summer were not the best time for the trade in furs. Locating a "landing" from where the trader took off is not possible today. So we have to approximate such a site as close as we can to the tributary of the St. Mary's where the traveler or trader left his craft and supplied himself with horses if he had a great deal to carry.

The Miami Indians, it is believed, had established their main villages at the confluence by 1717. The first recorded dedication of the French Fort St. Philippe took place in May, 1722. It stood on the east bank of the St. Mary's near the present Van Buren Street Bridge,

A Map

of the *Reservations* at *Fort Wayne*.

Surveyed June 1803 by Thoˢ Freeman.

The inked and shaded lines of the Reservations have been run & marked - posts have been set in the ground at 100 Perches apart, on the east & west lines, & numerically numbered as appears on the Plan; the tree neareſt each poſt, has been lettered U.S. and numbered with the number of the poſt, near which it ſtands; the diſtance of each tree from its correſponding poſt in links of a chain is expreſſed in red figures on the Plan; the mile Square including Fort Wayne & the confluence of the rivers Sᵗ Mary & Sᵗ Joſeph is the military reſervation; the rapid in the Sᵗ Mary's river near the military ſquare, produces a fall of near 6 feet in 200 yards, which is the only fall of water that could be included in the 6 mile ſquare, - once or twice a year the water riſes here, from 6 to 10 feet, but does not overflow the banks.

Miles VI

S. 13° E. 6 miles

Swamp

Scale of Perches

Perches

inches

Copied by - Charles de Krafft

Miles II

S. 42° W. 2 miles

N. 48° W. 2 miles

S. 48° E. 2 miles

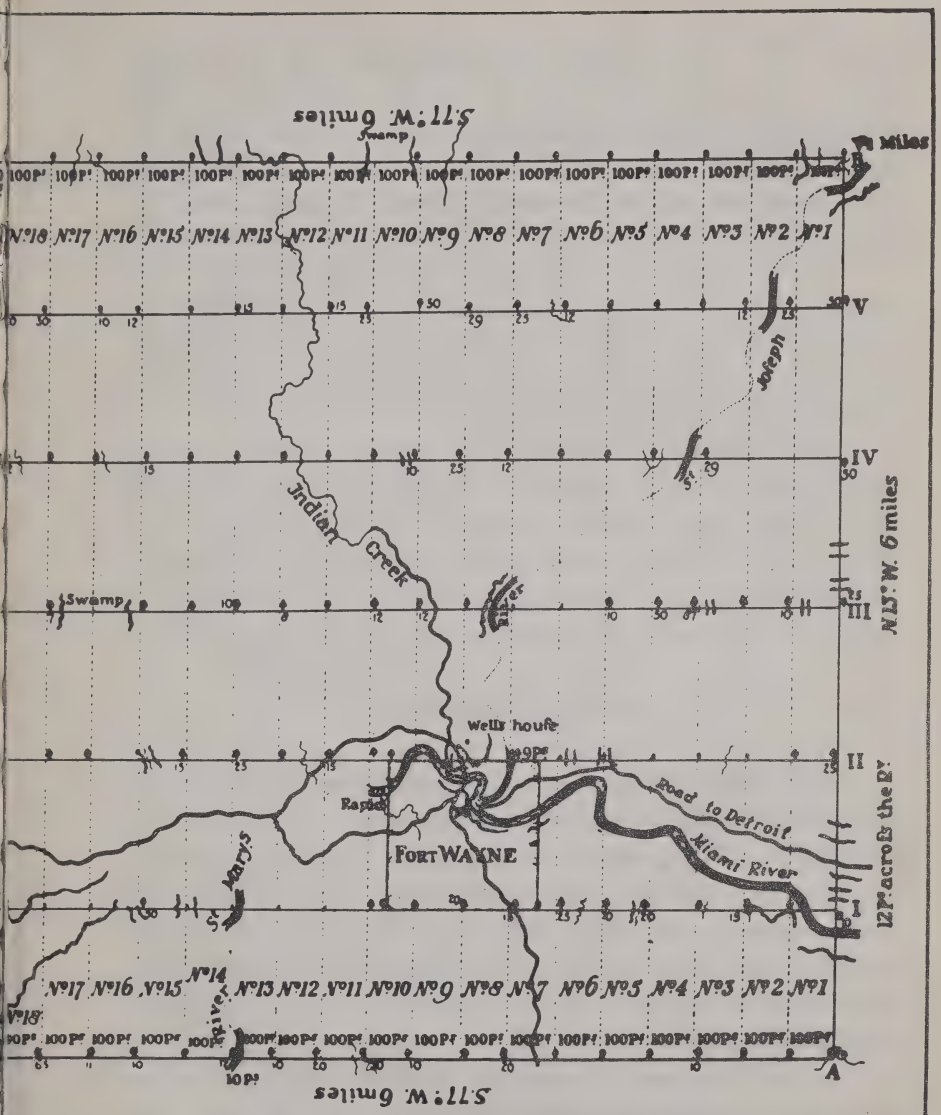
N. 42° E. 2 miles

Portage Road

Portage Road

Little Rivers River

Swamp - prairie or graſſy wet Meadow



Redrawn by H.D. Bodine
June-1927.

until 1749. The second fort established by the French was on the northeast bank of the St. Joseph River near the present Tennessee Avenue Bridge. It was taken by the British in May, 1763. It was these two fort sites that were located by General Anthony Wayne during his stay to build the first American fort at the confluence.

If the trader left from either of these two first fort sites, he would travel by water to a place where he landed for the "carry." The old Huntington Road was no doubt the route of his trail to the next landing-place where he could embark by water.

The Sites and Markers Committee of the Allen County-Fort Wayne Historical Society has decided on a site for the east landing marker. It will be placed in a little park running between the Pennsylvania Railroad elevation and the Huntington Road. Its location is where it will be best seen by the present-day tourist.

PEACE COUNCIL

After the Indian wars over boundaries had failed to settle the conflicts existing between the Indians and the oncoming settlers, the first successful step toward peace was made at Wayne's winter quarters - Fort Greenville. It was here in the final councils that Little Turtle and the Miamis agreed to give up the military reservation around Fort Wayne and the control of the Maumee-Wabash Portage.

With the words actually spoken in the closing councils, we dedicate and mark the site of the east landing of this portage. Replicas of the Greenville Treaty, and Wayne's flag given to the chiefs assembled at Greenville are symbols of the binding solemnity of this great assembly.

THE ALTAR OF PEACE

Script taped for the dedication of the marker placed at the east landing of the Maumee-Wabash Portage.

THEME MUSIC - THE WHITE COCKADE

ANNOUNCER: There is an altar made of stone - called the ALTAR OF PEACE dedicated to perpetual peace between the white man and the Indians of the Old Northwest... Here at Fort Greenville in the summer of 1795 - chiefs of all the Indian tribes north and west of the Ohio came over well-worn paths to meet in peaceful council with General Anthony Wayne - who had won a victory over them a year before at Fallen Timbers. Today - in the 184th year of our country's existence, we look back to that treaty of lasting peace - for it was there that the land on which we stand - FORT WAYNE - and the MAUMEE WABASH PORTAGE - came at last under the protection of the FATHER OF THE FIFTEEN FIRES - the President of the United States of America - GEORGE WASHINGTON! - It was the good words spoken by General Wayne and the greatest of the chiefs... and agreed to by 1130 of their tribesmen that settled the boundary which meant peace - before the altar dedicated with words that meant "THE LORD GIVE PEACE"... Freedom of passage through Indian country was granted along the principal rivers and

their connecting portages throughout the Old Northwest... And all Indian lands were to be obtained only by peaceful negotiations with the tribes that claimed them.

BUGLE CALLS - ASSEMBLY, TO THE COLORS

GEN WAYNE: STEPS FORWARD AS IF SPEAKING

Brothers, we are assembled here to continue the treaty words begun many days ago. With this belt I open your ears that you may hear. Before today's words have faded from our ears I hope to hear again from your chiefs. In outlining the territory which your tribes claim, I will point out to you where I discover strong traces of forts...

I have seen distinctly the prints of a French and a British post at the MIAMI Villages - where FORT WAYNE now stands...

It seems to me that if the GREAT SPIRIT, as you say, charged your forefathers to preserve their lands entire to their posterity, they have paid very little regard to the sacred injunctions. For I see they have parted with these lands to your fathers, the French; and the English are now, or have been, in possession of them all. Therefore, I think the charge urged against these tribes - Wyandots, Delawares, and Shawnees - who it is claimed sold their land to men who wore hats, comes with very bad grace indeed from the very people who set them the

example...The English and French both wore hats..and yet, your forefathers sold them at various times portions of their lands.

MURMURS AMONG THE CHIEFS

CAPTAIN WELLS: STEPS FORWARD General Wayne, Sir, you expected a word from Little Turtle, the Miami Chief. I am empowered at this time to give you the meaning of Little Turtle's words.

GEN WAYNE: Let us hear what Little Turtle has to say

SOUNDS AY, AY, AY

CAPTAIN WELLS: Elder Brother...The Miami Villages were occupied as you remarked but it was unknown to your younger brothers until you told them, that we had SOLD land there to the French or English. I was surprised to hear you say it was my forefathers had set the example to the other Indians in selling lands. I will inform you in what manner the French and English occupied those places.

ELDER BROTHER: These people - the French - were seen by our forefathers first at Detroit..afterwards WE SAW THEM AT THE MIAMI VILLAGE... THAT GLORIOUS GATE WHICH YOUR YOUNGER BROTHERS HAD THE HAPPINESS TO OWN AND THROUGH WHICH ALL THE GOOD

WORDS OF OUR CHIEFS HAD TO PASS FROM THE NORTH TO THE SOUTH..AND FROM THE EAST TO THE WEST...

BROTHERS, these people never told us they wished to PURCHASE our lands from us...ELDER BROTHER With respect to the reservations at the Miami Villages, we thank you for kindly contracting the limits you at first proposed. We wish you to take this six miles square on the side of the river where your fort now stands. You shall cut hay for your cattle wherever you please, and you shall never require the assistance of your younger brothers at that place. The next place you pointed to was the Little River, and said you wanted two miles square at that place. This is a request that our fathers, the French and British, never made us; it was always ours. This carrying-place has heretofore proved in a great degree, the subsistence of your younger brothers, and has brought us, in the course of one day, the amount of ONE HUNDRED DOLLARS. LET US BOTH OWN THIS PLACE, and enjoy in common the advantages it affords.

PAUSE
SHUFFLING
MOVEMENT

RIVER SONG

RIVER SONG (fading gradually through next brief speech on portage)

WAYNE: I remind you that in former treaties - the Ordinance of 1787 - portages are declared free public ways, not to be

held by private owners...

ANNOUNCER as secretary of council:

Hear ye then the text of the treaty you all assembled to sign...fade And...the said tribes do cede also to the United States the following piece of land to-wit: One piece six miles square at or near the confluence of the River St. Mary and ST. JOSEPH WHERE FORT WAYNE STANDS OR NEAR IT. ONE PIECE TWO MILES SQUARE ON THE WABASH AT THE END OF THE PORTAGE FROM THE MAUMEE AND ABOUT EIGHT MILES WESTWARD FROM FORT WAYNE... Miamies, do you agree?

VOICES: Ay, ay, ay!

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CAPTAIN WELLS: Each chief will now make a mark or imitation of some animal as his totem...Little Turtle says he may be the last to sign...but he will also be the last to break this treaty...

ANNOUNCER: LITTLE TURTLE TAKES QUILL PEN AND DRAWS OUTLINE OF TURTLE

WAYNE: As it is probable, my children, that we shall not soon meet in public council, I take this opportunity of bidding you all an affectionate farewell, and of wishing you a safe and happy return to your respective homes and families.

ANNOUNCER: And now the council fires were extinguished and the dead embers scattered over the ground... No chief or warrior who gave his hand at Greenville ever lifted the hatchet against the Fifteen Fires.

THE TREATY OF GREENVILLE - two pieces of parchment 26 inches square - was signed by President George Washington on December 22, 1795, with a quill pen touched by the Indians.

THE WHITE COCKADE - YANKEE DOODLE from "The Spirit of '76."

1959 - 1960

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